



Deming Park

Corner Main Street, Kensington and Kensington Road



Deming Park (.24 acres) Corner of Main Street/Kensington Road. Approximate address is 325 Connecticut Route 71. The Berlin Savings Bank purchased the vacant building, tore it down, and created Deming Park in memory of Henry Deming, former President of Berlin Savings Bank.



Descendant of Henry Deming

Painting of Henry Deming

Berlin Historical Society photo



Hartford Courant, July 12, 2015: BERLIN — A tiny park on a busy town center corner will get a much-needed upgrade if the town approves a family's offer to restore Deming Park in memory of Lucille Micacci who died in 2013 at age 68.

Initial plans for an upgrade of Deming Park were sent July 7 by the Town Council to the town planning commission for review. The proposal also will require approval by the park commission prior to a council vote on the offer from Micacci's husband and children.

Tony Micacci, President of TM Industries in Berlin donated in memory of Lucy Micacci. The updated park includes a gazebo, a rose garden, stone walls, and a statue of a woman reading to children.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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This land, granted to settlers in 1661 and 1668 by the General Court of Connecticut, was also purchased from the local Mattabesett Indian tribe. Founders of the community include Sergeant Richard Beckley, who came north on the trail from New Haven before 1660 and built a home in the northeast section; Jonathan Gilbert, owner of a tract of land along the Hartford-New Haven path; and Captain Richard Seymour, who led a group of families from Farmington in 1686 to begin the settlement at Christian Lane. The area was named the Great Swamp Society in 1705, when it was granted a distinct ecclesiastical unit.

Portions of Farmington, Wethersfield, and Middletown were included in the reorganization of 1722, when the name became Kensington.

The Worthington Society was later separated from Kensington, but in 1785 all parts were incorporated as the Town of Berlin, including Worthington, Kensington, East Berlin, and New Britain. Known as the "Town at the Crossroads" Berlin is the geographic center of Connecticut.

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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Here in the birthplace of the Yankee Pedlar, the Pattison brothers started the tin industry in 1740, when they began manufacturing and selling tin pots and pans. Simeon North, official pistol maker for the United States Government, developed a system of standard interchangeable parts here in his shop c. 1800.

Other citizens who brought fame to Berlin include: Emma Hart Willard, educator; Robert Brandergee, artist-poet; Elisha Cheney, clock maker; James Gates Percival, poet-geologist; and General Selah Hart, regimental and brigade commander in the American Revolutionary War. The period from 1850 to 1900 saw the New Britain section grow from a farming village to a thriving industrial center after its separation from Berlin in 1850. Some factories still operated in Berlin, however, and the brick industry flourished well into the 20th century because of the excellent quality of the local clay. The Berlin area has long been a major stop on main routes of travel, from Indian paths to superhighways.

Erected by the Town of Berlin
the Berlin Historical Society
and the Connecticut Historical Commission

1982

